

✓ "Father Tom" ✓

by Carl Krusader.

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SYNOPSIS OF STORY

Father Tom's good deeds and kindly nature were proverbial, until a glaring wrong was done and then, with right and justice on his side, he went in to win.

When Bob Wellington quarreled with his mother, a wealthy widow, and was going to leave home, Father Tom induced him to take the humble position of clerk in the General Store.

Search for work took orphaned Margie to Clintonville, where hunger drove her to steal a loaf of bread. Father Tom rescued her from the Constable and found her a home with kindly Mrs. Martin. Between Margie and Bob a romance quickly developed.

Clarence Dalton, suitor of Bob's mother and the cause of their disagreement, met Margie, admired her youth and beauty, and took her to the "Inn," a roadhouse that Father Tom had threatened to wipe out unless its management was bettered. Father Tom took Margie home and gave Jim Colby, the proprietor, a last warning.

Mrs. Wellington, chagrined at Dalton's perfidy and annoyed at Bob's independence, refused to extend the mortgage she held on Father Tom's church. How to raise the money was a big problem. Margie's only possession had been a horse, "Bubbles," and when she and Bob discovered that he was a famous race horse, they finally persuaded Father Tom to enter him in the coming races, as a possible means of paying off the debt.

On the eve of the race, Colby stole "Bubbles" from his stable. Bob recovered him in time for "Bubbles" to prove himself a great little church worker by winning the race. Colby promised to reform his "Inn" if he was not arrested as a horse thief, and when Dalton was disclosed as "Monty, the Masher," wanted for bigamy, Mrs. Wellington forgave Bob and graciously accepted Margie as a daughter-in-law.

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